

### Did You Know....

# The rules for vehicle travel across national forests have changed?

The Travel Management Rule was implemented on the North Kaibab Ranger District of the Kaibab National Forest in 2013. This was a Federal rule that required all national forests and grasslands to designate a system of roads, trails, and areas for motorized use, and to prohibit all motor vehicle use off the designated system.

Travel management will help us balance the public's enjoyment of motorized travel with the best possible care of the land and its precious resources.

Forest planners undertook a lengthy process to determine what roads were most important to the various user groups, what areas were most in need of protection, and what members of the public had to say.

Motor vehicle use maps indicate what roads are open to motor vehicle travel. Maps are available at Kaibab National Forest offices and on our Web site at **www.fs.usda.gov/goto/kaibab/tmr**.





## **You Can Still Get There**

Under the new system, visitors can still drive on most of the same roads they had previously.

Certain roads have been closed to address specific resource concerns, but the majority of forest roads are still open to motorized vehicle use.

In many areas of the North Kaibab Ranger District, short routes have been added to the open road system. These routes access historically popular motorized dispersed camping sites and were added specifically to provide visitors with a more enjoyable motorized dispersed camping experience.

The motor vehicle use map (MVUM) is the key to understanding the forest transportation system and can be used in conjunction with the Kaibab National Forest visitor map. Use the MVUM to determine what roads are open and how far you are allowed to drive off of the road.

# What You Need To Know...

- These new rules only affect motor vehicle use. They **DO NOT** restrict hiking, biking, horseback riding, or other nonmotorized activities.
- All roads on the forest are numbered. However, only roads appearing on the motor vehicle use map (MVUM) are open to public motorized use.
- ⚠ On the North Kaibab Ranger District, there are 1,476 miles of roads available for motorized use.
- Driving off of designated roads is no longer allowed except in specific circumstances. However, motorists may drive and park up to 30 feet from the side of all open roads, unless otherwise specified.
- Within 1 mile of all open roads (except where prohibited), hunters can drive off the road to retrieve a legally killed elk or bison using the most direct and least ground-disturbing route

- in and out (one trip in, one trip out) during all elk and bison hunting seasons as designated by the Arizona Game and Fish Department, and for 24 hours following the end of each season.
- Rules for gathering firewood are handled through firewood permits. Check the map that accompanies the permit.
- Arizona State law applies to all maintained roads on the forest. For additional information, visit:
- www.azgfd.gov/outdoor\_recreation/off\_highway.shtml.
- ⚠ Driving off road or off the designated open road system is a violation that could result in a ticket.
- It is your responsibility to ensure you are driving on a designated road. Use the free MVUM to determine whether your route is a designated route.
- A Nature rules! Please stay on designated roads and trails.

# **Common Questions & Answers...**

#### 1. What is Travel Management?

The Travel Management Rule is a Federal regulation that all national forests and grasslands are required to implement. The Travel Management Rule limits motorized use to designated roads, trails, and areas. The intent of the rule is to protect natural resources while also providing for motorized recreational opportunities.

#### 2. What roads am I able to drive or ride using my vehicle/ATV/motorcycle?

The North Kaibab Ranger District has free motor vehicle use maps (MVUMs) that show the open road system. These maps are available at all Kaibab National Forest offices and on our Web site at <a href="https://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/kaibab/tmr">www.fs.usda.gov/goto/kaibab/tmr</a>. Visitors are responsible for carrying this map to inform them of motorized travel regulations.

- Roads not on the MVUM are closed to public motorized use.
- Travel off of the designated road system is prohibited, except as identified on the MVUM.
- The MVUM will be updated annually to make adjustments and fix errors.

#### 3. Am I allowed to go off-road to gather firewood?

On the North Kaibab Ranger District, cross-country motorized travel to collect firewood is authorized for one trip in and one trip out in certain forest types. In the higher elevation ponderosa, aspen, spruce, and fir vegetation, off-road motorized travel is allowed. In the lower elevation piñon and juniper woodlands, motorists may drive up to 30 feet off of all open roads in order to park and collect firewood. A firewood permit is required for all firewood collection. The firewood permit and accompanying map identify the forest areas within which cross-country motorized travel is authorized.

#### 4. Why is motorized game retrieval allowed for elk and bison, but not for deer?

Planners attempted to balance the needs of hunters with protection of the habitat and the natural resources. Motorized retrieval is allowed for elk and bison because of the small number of those animals that are taken each year on the district, and their size and the difficulty of transporting them. Mule deer are taken in much greater numbers and often in the lower elevation piñon-juniper woodlands, where the soil is more fragile in wet months. Mule deer also weigh much less than elk or bison and are easier to transport. Under travel management rules, 80 percent of the district outside wilderness is within a half mile of an open road.



#### 5. Can I still car camp?

Yes. Motorists may drive up to 30 feet from the side of all open roads to park and camp, unless otherwise posted. On the North Kaibab Ranger District, camping corridors allow motorists to drive up to 100 feet or 300 feet from open roads to camp. Corridors are marked on the motor vehicle use map. Additionally, the district added 16 miles of spur routes to the open roads system that access 796 existing campsites to ensure the availability of motorized dispersed camping opportunities.

#### 6. I found an error on your map. How do I provide comments and updates?

If you discover errors on the MVUM, please provide your comments via our public Web site at: http://go.usa.gov/mhV. (This Web address is case sensitive, so please enter exactly as shown.)

# Who to Contact...

Kaibab National Forest Supervisor's Office 800 S. 6th St. Williams, AZ 86046

EMAIL: mailroom\_r3\_kaibab@fs.fed.us

Supervisor's Office: (928) 635-8200 North Kaibab Ranger District: (928) 643-7395 Kaibab Plateau Visitors Center: (928) 643-7298 Williams Ranger District: (928) 635-5600 Tusayan Ranger District: (928) 638-2443



United States
Department
of Agriculture



Forest Service Southwestern Region

RG-R3-07-9